& West, Jangpura Extn. Jangpura, Diplomatic Enclave, Indraprastha Estate, Neeti Bagh, Gulmohar Park, Andrews Ganj Extn., Mayur Vihar, Phase I, Rohini Sectors 9,13 & 14, R.K. Puram, Vasant Kunj Pocket C-3,6/7,8 & 9 and B-11, Patparganj, I.P. Extn., Mayfair Garden, Kali Bari Marg, HUDCO.

In the domestic segment category, the price of PNG is indexed to the LPG price as sold in domestic LPG cylinders and is at present at a 2.5% discount on equivalent heating value basis.

(c) New areas are identified each year for extending PNG supply subject to economic viability. During the remaining part of the current financial year 2005-06, the following areas are planned to be covered for PNG supply:—

Rohini Sector-15, Pitam Pura, Paschim Vihar, Vikas Puri, Mayur Vihar Phase II, Vasundhara Enclave, Uday Park, Anand Lok, Gulmohar Enclave. Further, CPWD colonies of Kidwai Nagar, Laxmibai Nagar, Netaji Nagar, R.K. Puram, Sector 8, 9, 12 & 13, Andrews Ganj and Chanakya Puri may also be covered subject to confirmation of funding by CPWD.

Production of kerosene

1690. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the kerosene supplied through Public Distribution System has not been adequate to meet the demand of public;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to direct the refineries to produce more kerosene in order to meet the shortfall;

(c) the amount of kerosene to be produced by refineries in order to maintain adequate supply of kerosene in the country; and

(d) the total demand and supply of kerosene in the country sold through PDS, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Kerosene sold under the Public Distribution System (PDS) is an allocated product. In terms of the policy adopted

by the Government of India, the allocation of PDS kerosene to various States/Union Territories was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 till 2004-05, taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each of the States/Union Territories.

In view of the requests received from various State Governments for increasing the allocation, the Government of India have commissioned the first-ever detailed study of kerosene demand in the country, through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in December, 2004. The final report of NCAER is expected by September, 2005.

Pending the report of NCAER, and taking a view thereupon, for the year 2005-06, allocations have been maintained at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocations made during that year to meet urgent demand of PDS kerosene in States/Union Territories. The decision about rationalizing the allocation of PDS kerosene among States/Union Territories would be taken after examining the NCAER report.

(b) and (c) Although, current refinery capacity is sufficient to meet the domestic demand of PDS kerosene (SKO), Oil Marketing Companies who are distributing PDS kerosene had represented to Government that owing to non-availability of adequate quantities of SKO from domestic refineries, they have to import SKO at higher prices, whereas some of the stand-alone refineries were exporting Jet Kerosene/Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) which is equivalent to the PDS kerosene product. Considering that non-availability of kerosene may assume significant proportions, it became essential that Government take pro-active action. Accordingly, a proposal to direct refineries to produce a minimum amount of kerosene have been examined. The Department of Legal Affairs have confirmed the powers of the Central Government to issue such an order under the Essential Commodities Act. In the meantime, Oil Marketing Companies have been advised to discuss the availability of kerosene with various refineries to meet domestic demand.

The estimated requirement of PDS kerosene 2005-06 from refineries work out to approximately 7% of their estimated crude throughput for 2005-06 including private refineries.

(d) The State-wise details of kerosene allocation for the second quarter of 2005-06 are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of kerosene allocation for 2nd quarter of 2005-06

State/UT	SKO allocation for 2nd Quarter of 2005-06 (July to September, 2005 (in MTs)
1	2
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1454
Andhra Pradesh	129289
Arunachal Pradesh	2314
Assam	64502
Bihar	161857
Chandigarh	3267
Chhattisgarh	36734
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	695
Daman & Diu	529
Delhi	42121
Goa	4803
Gujarat	185940
Haryana	36405
Himachal Pradesh	12634
Jammu & Kashmir**	14489
Jharkhand	52794
Karnataka	115369
Kerala	54077
Lakshadweep*	000
Madhya Pradesh	122152
Maharashtra	319219
Manipur	4977
Meghalaya	5100

1	2
Mizoram	1554
Nagaland	3328
Orissa	78744
Pondicherry	3064
Punjab	59298
Rajasthan	99728
Sikkim	1395
Tamil Nadu	139732
Tripura	7708
Uttar Pradesh	310443
Uttaranchal	22462
West Bengal	188026
All India (Total)	2286203

* Advance *ad-hoc* allocation for Lakshadweep for six months has already been conveyed *vide* this Ministry's letter of even number dated 22.02.2005.

** Allocation for J & K State (other than Ladakh region) is given in two blocks *i.e.* Summer (April-September) @40% of annual allocation and Winter (October-March) @ 60% of annual allocation. This allocation is for other than Ladakh region of J & K State. For Ladakh region State Government of J & K is allowed to uplift the entire year's allocation *i.e.* 3600 MTs of SKO during summer months *i.e.* May to October, when the road remains open.

Shortage of kerosene

1691. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of kerosene oil is due to use of kerosene oil in automobile;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and